

**Hudbay Minerals Inc. Response to Business and Human Rights Resource Centre
Re: Copper Mountain Mine allegations in Transition Minerals Tracker**

Good afternoon,

Please see below our comments regarding the environmental assessment requirements for Copper Mountain’s New Ingerbelle extension. We would like to make you aware that there have been further developments, more recent than the IndigiNews article you are referencing from October 6, 2023.

Since this article was published, the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office issued a decision on the Copper Mountain mine’s New Ingerbelle project on December 7, 2023. They determined that the New Ingerbelle project should continue through the streamlined, robust and efficient Coordinated Authorizations Process through the B.C. Major Mines Office for regulatory permit amendments. They deemed that the joint permitting process through B.C. Ministry of Energy Mines and Low Carbon Innovation Major Mines Office and B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy can fairly, effectively, and appropriately address the concerns raised by the Lower Similkameen Indian Band and the Wilderness Committee and an assessment of the project under the provincial *Environmental Assessment Act* is not needed.

For more information on the *Reasons for Decision of the Chief Executive Assessment Officer* from the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office, please see their [published report](#).

We believe the decision that the New Ingerbelle project will not be subject to a review under the *Environmental Assessment Act* appropriately reflects that the project is within the currently permitted production rate for Copper Mountain mine, and has limited planned increase in area of disturbance beyond the currently permitted mine footprint. Additionally, there are no expected increases in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from the New Ingerbelle project, as the operation would use the existing mining fleet.

The historical Ingerbelle open-pit is a past-producing pit previously mined by other organizations between 1972 and 1980 and again between 1995 and 1996. As part of the New Ingerbelle project, Hudbay intends to recommence mining at the historical Ingerbelle pit, which would bring many long-term economic and social benefits to local First Nations, communities and other stakeholders.

We remain committed to engaging with First Nation and local communities in a transparent, respectful, meaningful and collaborative manner, and this will form an integral part of the Coordinated Authorizations Process for New Ingerbelle. As part of the Coordinated Authorizations Process, a Mine Review Committee will be established by the Major Mines Office, which brings together ministries, First Nations, local governments, and parties from the United States, if required. This review process includes a detailed assessment of potential project effects; engagement with and input from key review participants, including First Nations, government, and the public; collaboration with First Nations on the design of the review, the conclusions and decision materials; and development of key mitigation measures based on technical and Indigenous knowledge. The Upper Similkameen Indian Band and the Lower Similkameen Indian Band have been engaged throughout the development of the baseline assessments and project design components for the New Ingerbelle Project.

Hudbay is committed to environmentally responsible mineral exploration and mining at our operations and exploration sites. From exploration to closure, we operate safely and responsibly, we welcome innovation, and we strive to minimize our environmental footprint while following leading practices in all facets of mining. Hudbay's Copper Mountain mine in British Columbia is at the forefront of environmentally conscious mining practices, implementing innovative technologies and solutions to curb greenhouse gas emissions and minimize environmental impacts; including reducing diesel usage through utilizing electric trolley-assist transport haul trucks, electric excavators within our fleet and evaluating use of renewable diesel in our haul trucks to further reduce emissions. Copper Mountain mine's GHG reduction targets are aligned with the corporate targets to achieve net-zero Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions by 2050.

For more information on Copper Mountain mine please visit our local stakeholder website <https://hudsonbaycoppermountain.com/>

Regards,
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